

DDSP Named Benner Distribution Center Employee with a Disability—2001



CAPT Chris McKelvey and Carl Benner

At age seven, Carl Benner, a Transportation Loss and Damage Claims Examiner in Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, Pennsylvania's (DDSP) Transportation Division was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis (CF), a chronic lung and digestive disorder of which only 60% of all infants born with the disorder live to adulthood.

Today, at age 43, Benner is one of the longest living CF patients in the United States.

By Stacy Umstead, DDC Command Affairs

Benner's position at DDSP requires him to work alongside co-workers in the warehouse conducting inspection of the commercial carrier freight terminals researching and searching for lost and damaged freight. These inspections occur in all types of weather and variable industrial environments. Benner perseveres, overcoming all obstacles with dignity and determination. He continuously displays a positive outlook on life and a dedication to supporting DDSP's mission.

When he's not working, Benner is a Scout Master with Boy Scout Troop 81, he belongs to the local Jaycees, is a Deacon at his church, as well as a Sunday School Teacher, he serves as Youth Director and is involved with Youth Sports.

In addition to his community volunteer service, Benner speaks to children who have Cystic Fibrosis and counsels the parents of CF patients providing hope for those who are struggling with the same disease.

According to Benner, "If there is any good thing about me, then give God the credit, I just thank God that I have understanding supervisors, co-workers, as well as family."

Paul Massa, DDTP Employee of the Year

By Walter J. Rosati, Jr, DDTP Receiving and Warehousing Division



Paul Massa

Paul Massa, Defense Distribution Depot Tobyhanna, PA (DDTP) Material Examiner and Identifier, has been selected as the DDTP Employee of the Year for FY 2001.

Massa distinguished himself through exceptional efficient and professional work in the Receiving and Warehousing Division during the past year. As an examiner/identifier, Massa's knowledge and expertise resulted in enhanced productivity in the processing of all mission and project receipts of major heavy end items. Despite his own heavy workload, Massa always found time to assist others who needed his expertise.

"Mr. Massa's hard work and dedication make him an invaluable asset to his division, DDTP, and DLA," said LTC David Rodriguez, United States Army, DDTP Commander. "His experience, coupled with his cooperative attitude and unhesitating willingness to do whatever had to be done to achieve DDTP's mission, remind everyone of how our jobs should be done."

Massa has been an important member of the DDTP receiving and warehousing team. He is knowledgeable in all facets of processing heavy end items. Massa's expertise has been instrumental in DDTP meeting DLA's standard and the continuous improvement of these standards, which are an integral part of DDTP's success.

On a daily basis, Massa completes the difficult task of processing all power units, generators, shelters, vans, antennas, trucks and HUMV's. Massa constantly goes above and beyond to determine the proper accounts for material received from around the world.

Because of changes in military force and base structure, extra effort is required with the heavy end items for this vital equipment to be posted to the correct accountable record. Massa also works closely with the handing off of all heavy items that are receipted to Tobyhanna Army Depot (TYAD) for repair and return. His accuracy in this endeavor keeps DDTP from wasting valuable time in the research of frustrated freight.

Massa, who has previously been a DDTP supervisor, has been an exceptional employee during his entire DDTP career. He is in constant touch with all DDTP employees when problems do arise with major heavy end items. Throughout his career he has constantly accepted rising responsibilities and always maintained a caring and professional attitude which has earned him the respect of his subordinates, peers and supervisors alike.

Massa has also served as DDTP's Reserve Training Officer, where he schedules all reserve training throughout the year.